

ROBERT E. LATTA
5TH DISTRICT, OHIO

ASSISTANT MINORITY WHIP

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
COMMUNICATIONS, TECHNOLOGY AND THE INTERNET

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMERCE,
TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
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Congress of the United States
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August 5, 2010

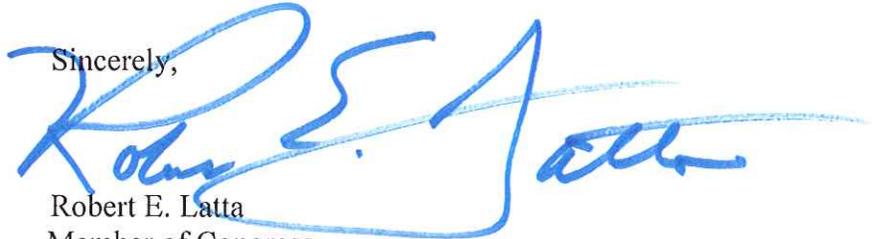
The Honorable W. Craig Fugate
Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C Street, SW
Washington, DC 20472

Dear Administrator Fugate,

I am extremely disappointed in FEMA's decision to deny for a second time the federal major disaster declaration request for the Ohio counties of Wood, Fulton, and Ottawa that were affected by the June tornados. This destruction has left these communities in a very difficult situation, and it is troublesome that FEMA could not provide funding to assist them. As I have expressed in previous letters to you, I am very concerned that all the destruction that occurred was not adequately considered in FEMA's decision. Supplemental federal assistance is absolutely necessary to assist these local governments rebuild after these storms.

I am requesting that you provide me the rationale and reasoning behind both the first and second denial of the request made by Governor Strickland on June 9, 2010 and the amended appeal filed July 22, 2010 as soon as possible. These communities deserve an explanation of the analysis used in denying them the assistance they need to deal with the destruction caused by this disaster. I appreciate your prompt attention to this request. If you have any questions or would like to speak with me personally regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 225-6405.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Latta
Member of Congress

REL/ahw

Cc: Andrew Velasquez III, Regional Administrator, FEMA Region V